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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: John R. Liddicoat et al.  
Serial No.: 10/724,854  
Filing Date: 12/01/2003  
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANIPULATING  
TISSUE

Group Art Unit No.: 3732  
Attorney's Docket No.: LIDDICOHN-123

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED  
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August 16, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

*James A. Sheridan 8/16/04*

(SIGNATURE)

August 16, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) Apparatus for reconfiguring tissue, said apparatus comprising:  
  
a shaft having a distal end and a proximal end;  
  
at least one effector mechanism movably mounted to said distal end of said shaft, each said effector mechanism comprising at least one gripping element for gripping tissue to that

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